

Message Text

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63

ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIE-00

INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 EB-11 MC-02 ACDA-19 OMB-01

TRSE-00 COME-00 /113 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN:SC

APPROVED BY ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 111818

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CI

SUBJECT: ARMS SALES TO CHILE

1. ARTICLE IN MAY 28 ISSUE OF WALL STREET JOURNAL BY EVERETT MARTIN QUOTES AN "OFFICIAL SOURCE- IN SANTIAGO AS SAYING THAT BECAUSE OF CONGRESSIONAL REACTION TO EVENTS IN CHILE, "THESE SALES (REFERRING TO F-5 AIRCRAFT AND M-60 TANKS) ARE NOW UNDER RECONSIDERATION, AND THE CHILEANS AREN'T HAPPY ABOUT IT."

2. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED A PRESS INQUIRY AS TO THE VALIDITY OF THAT STATEMENT. WE ARE REPLYING AS FOLLOWS: "WE INFORMED THE CHILEANS MORE THAN A YEAR AGO THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO APPROVE SALES OF F-5 AIRCRAFT AND M-60 TANKS. THAT DECISION HAS NOT BEEN ALTERED."

3. IF ASKED ABOUT THE STATUS OF THESE TRANSACTIONS WE WILL REPLY "WE UNDERSTAND THE CHILEANS HAVE SIGNED A CONTRACT FOR SOME F-5 AIRCRAFT. NO U.S. GOVERNMENT CREDITS ARE INVOLVED. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT THE CURRENT
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CHILEAN PLANS FOR PURCHASING TANKS MIGHT BE."

4. IF SIMILAR INQUIRIES ARE RECEIVED, EMBASSY SHOULD NOT GO BEYOND THE RESPONSE INDICATED ABOVE, WHETHER FOR THE RECORD OR ON BACKGROUND. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN AND REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR GUIDANCE. RUSH

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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